AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the first full paragraph on page 15 of the specification, and replace it with the following paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 2, eight patterns are arranged in the pattern matrix 21, and 256 pulse widths, corresponding to 256 tones, are entered in the index ~~table 2~~matrix 22. Further, for the eight patterns correlation of the tones and the pulse widths differ. In the example in Fig. 2, for patterns 1 and 2 in the index table 22, pulse widths 0 to 255 are correlated with tones 0 to 63, and the pulse width 255 (emitted beams that strike a dot) is correlated with tones 64 to 255. Therefore, patterns 1 and 2 form dots that grow even at a comparatively low tone value. In addition, according to the example in Fig. 2, patterns 3 and 4 in the index table 22, pulse width 0 is correlated with tones 0 to 63, and pulse widths 0 to 255 are correlated with tones 64 to 127, while pulse width 255 is correlated with the higher tones, 128 to 255. Therefore, the patterns 3 and 4 form printing dots in a halftone spot that grows at a tone value higher than that for the patterns 1 and 2.

Please delete the first full paragraph on page 19 of the specification, and replace it with the following paragraph:

As is shown in Fig. 3, for the conventional halftone table 68 the gamma characteristic is represented by a simple, linearly increasing procedure. Thus, an explanation will first be given for the image processing for the RGB tone data x1 and x2, which are grid points in the color conversion table. According to the color conversion table 65 in the fourth quadrant, the RGB tone data x1 and x2 are converted into the CMYK tone values y1 and y2, and the lines for the CMYK tone values y1 and y2 are returned in the third quadrant and converted into the image

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reproduction data S66 that correspond to the output densities D1 and D2, in accordance with the

halftone table ~~S69~~ S68 in the second quadrant. It can be understood from the first quadrant that

the target reproduction densities for the RGB tone data x1 and x2 are D1 and D2, and that these

obtained output densities match the target densities. This is true because, as is explained above,

when the color conversion table is prepared the grid points are so set that they

~~correlation~~correlate.

Please delete the third full paragraph on page 26 of the specification, and replace it

with the following paragraph:

As is shown in Fig. 8, the image reproduction data for the output density D3 can be

produced for the input ~~CMYK~~ L* value x3 located between the sample points in the color

conversion table 65, and an image having the brightness indicated by the L* of the DIELab,

which is device independent, can be reproduced by the electrophotographic apparatus.

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